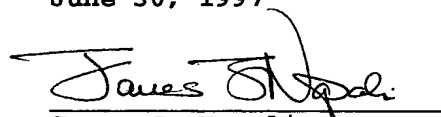




8/8/97
C. Steple

PATENT -- FEE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
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)	June 30, 1997
)	
)	James J. Napoli
)	Registration No. 32,361
)	Attorney for Applicant

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 29, 1997, Applicant hereby elects the invention represented by claims of Group I, namely claims 1 through 15, inclusive, and claim 16(A), with traverse, for examination on the merits at this time.

It is submitted, however, that all claims 1 through 17 in the above-identified application should be examined at this time. The novelty of the invention is defined in the claims of examiner's Groups I through IV, which are not independent and distinct inventions because the statutory requirements of 35 U.S.C. §121, namely, independence and distinctness, are not present herein.